

PRESS RELEASE

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Madison, Wisconsin -- Erik C. Peterson, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Hai Van Tran, 35, of 311 Southing Grange Street, Cottage Grove, Wisconsin, pleaded guilty today in U.S. District Court in Madison to conspiring to distribute more than of 100 kilograms of marijuana.

Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation recovered approximately \$131,000, packaging material, and extensive drug notes at Tran's residence on February 7, 2006, while executing a federal search warrant. The government's proof established that Tran had been involved in a conspiracy with at least two other individuals from July 2005 to February 2006 to distribute marijuana.

Chief U.S. District Judge Barbara B. Crabb scheduled sentencing for June 12, 2007 at 1:00 p.m. Tran faces a mandatory penalty of five years in prison, and a maximum penalty of forty years in prison.

The charges against Tran were the result of an investigation conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation - Narcotics Bureau, and the Cottage Grove Police Department. The prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jeffrey

Anderson.

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